

INFORMATION REPORT

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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet War Vessels in Memel (Klaipeda) DATE OF REPORT 26 April 1956

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

LAST REPORT ON SUBJECT
(If applicable)

ANNEXES

This is UNEVALUATED

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During the period from 15 to 28 December 1955, the following war vessels were observed in Memel harbor: 1 torpedo boat or destroyer, 1 minesweeper (former German type), 1 vessel of unknown type, and 1 vessel of unknown type. A picture was taken of A 103. This vessel as well as the boats were moored in stream and put to sea and returned on different days at irregular times.

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a. The former German minesweeper was about 65 meters long, had a slightly raking stem, a square bridge with a tripod mast, a straight, high smokestack, set a little apart from and slightly higher than the bridge, low deck structures aft of the smokestack, and was identified as a former German M-40 type minesweeper. She was not moored in stream but tied up alongside the outer mole of the warship harbor.

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b. Vessel about 40 meters long, had a boldly raking stem and continuous flush deck extending from stern to stern. The square bridge was fitted with numerous portholes. A gun mounted behind a protective shield stood on the forecastle. A mast with a topmast stood aft of the bridge and was fitted with a radar scanner at the masthead. A squat smokestack was about as high as the upper edge of the bridge. A round platform carrying two AA guns was sited aft of the smokestack and a gun mounted behind a protective shield stood on the fantail.

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c. Vessel about 100 meters long, had a boldly raking stem, with a raised forecastle on which a gun standing behind a protective shield was mounted. Another single gun, also mounted behind a protective shield, stood on a kind of "balcony" projecting from the bridge aft of the forecastle gun. The bridge structures were squat and the bridge carried a round rangefinder. A lattice mast was fitted between the bridge and the smokestack; it had a sharp bend at about three quarters of its total height, and carried a radar reflector on a small platform and a commensal-type scanner at the masthead. A squat, slightly slanting smokestack jutted from the low deck structures, and aft of it a multiple torpedo installation. A round platform was installed between the torpedo mount and the single gun on the after deck. AA weapons were mounted on a platform on the after deck, but no details could be made out because they were under canvas cover.

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